

BOOK REVIEWS

PAUL MARTIN BROWN. 2005. **Wild Orchids of Florida.** (ISBN 0-8130-2933-3, flexbound). University Press of Florida, 15 Northwest 15th Street, Gainesville, Florida 32611-2079, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.upf.com, 1-800-226-3822, 1-800-680-1955 fax). \$24.95, 409 pp., numerous line drawings, maps, color images, keys, checklist, 6.25" × 9.25".

Contents.—Foreword; Preface and Acknowledgments; List of Abbreviations and Symbols; **Part One:** Orchids and Florida (An Introduction to Orchids; Which Orchid Is It?); **Part Two:** Wild Orchids of Florida—Native and Naturalized (Native and Naturalized Species; Introduced, Escaped, and Waifs); **Part Three:** Resources and References (Checklist of Native and Naturalized Orchids of Florida; Recent Literature References for New Taxa, Combinations, and Additions to the Orchid Flora of Florida; Synonyms and Misapplied Names; Species Pairs; Some Florida Orchid Statistics; Orchid Hunting in Florida; Plant Records and County Lines; The Southeastern Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plains; Using Luer's *Native Orchids of Florida* (1972) in the New Century: Additions, Corrections, and Comments); Glossary; Selected Bibliography; Photo Credits; Index.

This book, *Wild Orchids of Florida*, is separated into three parts that consist of an introduction to orchids with information on how to use a key, detailed species pages on native orchids of Florida, and a resources and references section.

I found this book to be a good source for any amateur or orchid expert. The author used both common and scientific names in their description of each species with an average of two pages per description. The descriptions were consistent throughout the book and included several color images of the entire plant and close-ups of the flowers to aide in orchid identification. Line drawings of each species and a distribution map were included in the author's explanation. The book's size and weight make it an ideal companion for taking out in the field or simply on a hike. I think the book was enhanced by the author's inclusion of descriptions on several species that have been introduced to Florida. The resources and references section provides a detailed checklist, information on where to look, previous and recent orchid literature, and a glossary.—Keri McNew, MS Biology, Project Manager, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 East 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.

DOUG WELSH. 2007. **Doug Welsh's Texas Garden Almanac.** (ISBN 1-59544-619-3, flexbound with flaps). Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, Texas 77843-4354, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.tamu.edu/upress, 1-800-826-8911). \$24.95, 492 pp., color maps and images, b/w drawings, index, 7" × 10".

Contents.—Select Plant Lists; Almanac at a Glance; Introduction; **1**) January: Heading toward Spring; **2**) February: Hints of Spring, Reminders of Winter; **3**) March: Spring—Get Busy; **4**) April: Get Moving—Lots to Do; **5**) May: Full Steam Ahead; **6**) June: Welcome to Texas Heat; **7**) July: Dog Days of Summer; **8**) August: Hot, Hot, Hot, and Dry Too! **9**) September: Cooling Off, Maybe? **10**) October: No Need to Stop Gardening; **11**) November: Down Time, Not Exactly; **12**) December: Dreaming of Spring; Acknowledgments; Resources; Index.

Doug Welsh's Texas Garden Almanac is an easy-to-read gardening guide especially for gardening in Texas. Each monthly chapter includes major topics for important garden design and care that are related, but not exclusive to that month. Major discussion topics include: Texas lawn basics; plant problems such as pests and diseases; container gardening; vegetable, flower and herb gardening help; plants to consider for different situations and of different colors; when to plant; pruning basics and much more. Chapters also include a few pages of "timely tips," important items to consider completing that month to maintain a beautiful and healthy garden.

Doug Welsh's Texas Garden Almanac provides easy to access Texas gardening advice at your fingertips—a must-have book for Texas gardeners!—Lee Luckeydoo, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 East 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.